

**Family Living
Focus**

by
Adams Co.
Extension Agent
Nina Redding



Scams

It's that time of year when many homeowners turn their thoughts to fix up and repair jobs around the home and are more than willing to let someone else help for a great price.

I heard a story this week about a homeowner who had repairmen stop at his home and offer to repair the lightening protection system. The supposed repairmen indicated that they could see it was damaged from lightening and proceeded to do some work on the spot up on the roof.

After lots of pounding, the work was completed. The consumer paid, and the repairmen were off. It wasn't until the consumer realized maybe he should have gotten a receipt that the true story started to unfold. A reputable lightening protection system company who the person thought had done the work was contacted and the consumer asked for a receipt. When the company indicated they did not do any recent work for the individual it was clear what had happened. The company paid a visit to the consumer, checked the bogus work done, and found it was not done according to code, but the repairmen were long gone.

So you say, oh that would never happen to me?

Well, perhaps you are real smart and always on top of things, but think about your loved ones, especially the elderly who can't do many repair jobs for themselves and are thrilled when someone offers to do it immediately.

Of course the elderly want to pay their bills right away!

When we think of fraud, many of us immediately think about the telephone. Have you ever stopped to think it might be someone knocking at your door? Fraud is a purposeful deception practiced in order to get an unfair or unlawful advantage where a seller intentionally misleads the buyer. Fraud occurs when a knowing deception causes a consumer to enter into a transaction and by doing so, suffers a financial loss.

If you are approached with an offer by someone to do repair work, do your homework up front. Ask the person or company for a written quote that includes their name, address, telephone number, and a description of the work to be done. Ask lots of questions. Ask for local references that include a telephone number so you can truly call the reference before the work is done. Never allow someone to do the work the same day. If they do the work later make sure you get a receipt with the previously mentioned information.

If you are approached by anyone who has a deal too good to be true, take action by alerting authorities. You could prevent some unsuspecting consumer from losing money in a fraudulent scheme. Get as much identifying information (such as name, mailing address, and telephone number) as you can from the contractor before telling them that you are not interested in what they are selling. When a number of complaints or reports are received from a given area, authorities are likely to take enforcement action and issue consumer alerts by the media to warn others.

Kraybill Mennonite School 24th Annual Benefit Auction

Kraybill Church and
Gibble Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552
(717) 653-5236
kraybillms.mennonite.net

Friday, May 11
Southern Style Pig Roast
4:30-7:30 p.m. — All you can eat!

Specially prepared recipe by Lehman's Barbecue, Chesapeake, Virginia.

Chicken sandwiches, French fries, homemade ice cream and sundae bar.

Antiques and Collectibles Auction
6:30 p.m.

Washstands, child rockers, chests, planes, tools, plant stands, drop leaf tables.

Lawn and Garden Sale

Opens at 4 p.m.
Pre-priced annual and perennial bedding plants, hanging baskets, and shrubs.

Craft Show
Opens at 4 p.m.

Mother's Day gifts, corsages, 75 pieces of clothing for 18-inch dolls, teddy bears, candles, silk floral designs and wreaths, handcrafted bed ensemble for 18-inch doll, Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls, and bottled vinegars.

Quilt Preview
Beautiful selection of 20 full-size quilts plus many wall hangings including appliques, pieced, and patchwork patterns.

Saturday, May 12
Country breakfast buffet — 7 a.m.-9 a.m.

Craft show — reopens at 8 a.m.

Foods for all tastes offered throughout the day!

Chicken barbecue dinners, sandwiches, French fries, strawberry pies, homemade ice cream Auction — 8:30 a.m.

Quality goods and services donated by local and national businesses.

Outside auction — 9:30 a.m.
Bark mulch, plants, shrubs, garden tools, and landscape items.

Feature of the Hour — begins at 11 a.m.

Listen for the bell!
Quilt Auction — 1 p.m.
Patterns include M.S. Hershey Parchment, Carolina Lily, Vermont Star, Log Cabin Variations, Mariner's Compass, Boston Heart to name a few.



These are some items to be sold at the two-day benefit auction (May 11-12) at the Kraybill Mennonite School, 598 Kraybill Church Road, Mount Joy. For more information, call the school at (717) 653-5236 or visit its website at kraybillms.mennonite.net.

Gratz Fair Spring Craft Show

GRATZ (Dauphin Co.) — The eighth annual Gratz Fair Spring Craft Show will be held on Sat., May 19, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the fairgrounds, Route 25, Gratz. Admission is free.

Food is available all day beginning with breakfast, which will be available several hours before show time. For information, call (717) 365-3746.



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Do You Suffer From Fibromyalgia?



When I was introduced to New Image I was 50 pounds over weight and suffered from fibromyalgia I was so depressed and in pain the majority of the time I was taking steroids and four other medications, one of which made me so 'groggy' I could hardly get out of bed and another gave me ulcers I began taking New Image secretly because I thought my family would make fun of me After a month, I discovered I had lost eight pounds and seven inches Wow! Then it dawned on me, I was feeling better, the depression and pain were gone In two months I was off all medications "I feel SUPERIFIC" Now, two years later I have lost 43 pounds and 30 inches Thank you New Image for giving me a new life again
Judy Swift - Mt Washington, KY

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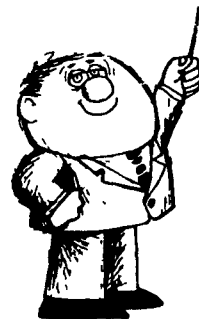
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